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since there was nothing to prevent his selling non-intoxicating drinks during night or day. After taking the matter under advisement the court decided that he was right. The same point might be made under the Indiana law. The law forbids the sale of "any spirituous, vinous, malt or other intoxicating liquor" between the hours of 11 o'clock p. m. and 5 o'clock a. m., but there is nothing in it to prevent the sale of non-intoxicating beverages. The law does not require saloons to close, but simply forbids the sale of intoxicating liquors.

SPANISH CIVILIZATION IN AMERICA.

The Madrid correspondent of the New York Herald has interviewed Emilio Castelar on Cuban affairs. Castelar is one of the most distinguished statesmen of Europe, and a consistent Liberal in politics, but his loyalty to Spain seems to have obscured his judgment. He defends the Spanish policy in Cuba, and thinks the insurgents are inflicting a grievous injury on the island in trying to achieve its independence. He also thinks the people of the United States are unjust to Spain in their open expression of sympathy for the insurgents. Continuing, he says:

North Americans are not just to the country which was the mother and discoverer of America. Classicism in literature and art still reigns in Europe, and there exists throughout the world a sort of religion called Hellenism, because Greece was the initiator of European civilization. In occidental countries we have made Roman civilization a dogma and called it Catholicism. Well, America must sooner or later create a religion which will be the initiator of American civilization. The logical laws of religion and society demand that Spain should be the center of the world of humanity.

Rash as it may seem to take issue with so accomplished and able a statesman as Castelar, the Journal feels moved to say that this expression is more indicative of his loyalty to Spain than it is of a correct appreciation of existing conditions.

MISS WILKINS'S PRIZE STORY.

It Will Be Printed in the Daily Journal, Beginning on Aug. 3.

On Aug. 3 the Journal will begin the publication of the most expensive short story ever published. It is the prize story in the detective story contest just closed, for which \$2,000 has been paid by the Bachelier & Johnson syndicate, agreeably with the award of the judges. This story is entitled, "The Long Arm." It is written by Mary E. Wilkins and her collaborator, Joseph E. Chamberlain. Miss Wilkins is now the most distinguished and perhaps the most popular American novelist of the time, and this story is particularly interesting, inasmuch as it is the first detective story that this author has ever written. The scene is laid in Vermont, among the simple New England people with whose life Miss Wilkins has shown herself so familiar. The interest is strong and well sustained, and the climax a genuine surprise. The story will be printed in daily installments of about two thousand words each, continuing for six days. It will not appear in the Sunday edition.

If the mass of people who are paying for street and sewer improvements should be consulted, the City Council will make a very moderate appropriation for parks. Two great improvements at a time are enough.

After all, the bull-fighting will constitute an attraction of the Atlanta exposition, and it will doubtless draw better than an exhibit of all the products of the fields, the factories and the mines of the South.

The daughter of ex-Secretary Whitney has set an example which other American girls can follow with advantage. She will marry an Englishman of an old family, but he lives and toils in America as an American.

The incoming Congress should enact a law which will make it very clear that it is no part of the duty of Cabinet officers to sail along the coasts inspecting lighthouses or to live on revenue cutters to see how they are managed.

The English bimetalists are said to be very much gratified over the Tory victory in the elections. They have taken an active part in the campaign against the Liberals and have urged the support of the Tory candidates as bimetalists.

The fact that two debates on the silver question have been postponed and newspaper readers are very weary of the Hor-Harvey squabble goes to prove that the sudden interest in the free coinage of silver of last March is a thing of the past.

It is said that the Czar of all the Russias has availed himself of the services of an American press-clipping bureau in order that he may know what is said of him and his methods in the United States. In that respect he is wiser than some other European rulers.

The conflict already on in Canada is between 3,425,000 Englishmen and 1,404,000 Frenchmen. In number the English are far ahead, but the French control one large province which may undertake to secede from a confederation which was created for the division of government subsidies for the building of railroads and other public works.

The Pennsylvania Legislature lately passed a law forbidding the exhibition in any public place, for a pecuniary consideration or reward, any person suffering from mental or physical deformity, or, as commonly known, any "freak." It is a good law, and if it were supplemented by one prohibiting the exhibition of physical deformities as a means of soliciting alms it would be still better.

Commissioner Roosevelt has done the Haroun Al Raschid act to some purpose. When he first took to wandering over New York city after midnight to inspect the doings of the policemen he found one member of the force out of every ten attending to his business. Now, he says, the proportion of delinquents is not one in fifty. He probably feels encouraged to persevere in this work of grace.

It is now suspected that the incapacity of the Chinese government and the general demoralization in China furnish an occasion for Russia to assume a protectorate over that country similar to that of Great Britain over Egypt. If this suspicion is well founded, the United States should not object, since China would, in all probability, afford a better field for American enterprise than it would if that country were under British domination.

A saloon keeper who was arrested in New York a few days ago for selling "soft drinks" after legal hours, contended that he had not violated any law, and for rebuking sin, and no conscientious preacher will neglect it. The man not being dead has a chance to profit by the admonition and reproof, and to reconstruct himself that when he is finally called hence his conduct and character may be of a sort to excite honest praise. If it should happen that he is a truly good man when the advance funeral discourse is pronounced he will not wish for unrestricted eulogy, for goodness is modest and conscious of its imperfections. He will rather wish to have his faults, though they are of a minor sort, pointed out that he may correct them, and will receive the disclosure in a humble and grateful spirit—that is, as before remarked, if he is really good.

This system of obsequies affords, indeed, one of the best of opportunities for expressing ourselves as others see us, and any individual who is anxious for this variety of illumination cannot do better than to arrange with some conscientious clergyman to preach an unflattering frank funeral sermon over him. If for any reason the clergyman is unobtainable he will probably have no trouble in securing the services of one or more friends or acquaintances, who, though outside of the pulpit, are competent and ready to tell just what sort of man he is. Such services are likely to be well attended, and may easily resolve themselves into "experience meetings," should the members of the audience see fit to supplement the remarks of the regular speaker with comments of their own on the character and conduct of the person who forms the center of interest.

The scheme is one which has wide possibilities, but the chances of its popularity are yet to be tested.

SCHOOLS AND THEIR COST.

The proceedings of the late national educational convention in Denver have been variously commented on by several newspapers. Most commendable zeal was manifested by superintendents and teachers in their work. Methods were compared and improvements suggested, and very naturally the office of the superintendent and teachers was magnified. All men are inclined to do that—a fact which St. Paul remarked in his time. What has been most criticized by the papers which have commented upon the convention is what it did not do. There was much which looked to larger expenditure, more costly buildings and apparatus, but there was not a word about economical management of the public schools. The Chicago Journal, one of the papers criticising this omission, calls attention to the last report of the National Commissioner of Education, which shows that the cost per capita of educating pupils in the public schools has been doubled during the past twenty years. The increase has been largest in the Northwestern States, and particularly in those States which received land grants for the support of public schools. It seems that the land grants, instead of decreasing the amount to be raised by taxation, as was the design, have apparently increased it. The same paper says that twenty years ago the cost of supporting the schools of Chicago was one-fourth of the entire expenditure for municipal government, while, at the present time, the schools require nearly as much money for their support as all the other departments.

In all cities the expenditure for schools has increased very largely during twenty years. This is due in part to the illogical relation which school boards sustain to other branches of the city government, or, more accurately, because the boards are practically independent of the control of the regular city government. To those boards is given almost unlimited power to raise and expend money. In this city the Mayor and the boards under him cannot expend a dollar which has been appropriated by the Council. An engine house cannot be built without a special appropriation; but the School Board can, by a majority vote, build schoolhouses and lavishly equip them. The Mayor and the boards of public works, safety and health cannot negotiate a loan for a thousand dollars without the authority of the Council, but the School Board can issue bonds at a high rate of interest to purchase property not needed. As the result of this unlimited power, school buildings have been made expensive by elaborate construction and finish where plainer and less costly buildings would be better, because the influence of such buildings is to teach that public money can be lavishly expended and to cause the mass of children coming from humble homes to such luxury to be discontented with their conditions.

There is a very general feeling that the present tendency to give a liberal education to a limited number in the high schools is not wise. If the development of the high school is not at the expense of the lower grades, it certainly confers advantages upon so limited a number that such schools cannot be called, in any real sense, public schools. In Chicago, it costs the taxpayers \$115.71 a year for every pupil attending the high schools. If the figures representing the cost of such schools in this and other cities should be presented they would cause surprise. The Journal is well aware that certain advanced educators hold that the State's system of education should include the university. Magnifying their office, these enthusiasts have lost sight of the burdens of the taxpayer. The mass of people who pay taxes, while they are in favor of a public school system which will insure the great body of children an education suited to people who must work for a living, have had their attention called to the increased cost of schools, and they will in time demand an investigation.

CRIMINAL MYSTERIES IN FICTION.

Everybody likes a good story, but there is something about the unravelling of a mystery which excites a peculiar interest in the human mind, and if a crime is involved in this mystery the interest, for some unexplainable reason, is proportionately greater. It is a recognition of this character of the fiction reading public that has led a Chicago paper to offer a series of prizes, of which the highest is \$10,000, for several stories which deal with mysteries that are fully unfolded only in the last chapter. The same thought caused the offering by a New York firm of prizes for detective stories. The great liking for tales of this sort is a curious manifestation of what seems to be an almost universal curiosity concerning the doings of criminals. It is shown by those persons who may possibly be aware of latent possibilities in themselves for misdoing, but it is hardly less noticeable in staid and trustworthy citizens, and in young and innocent boys

and girls. It has nothing in common with the so-called literary taste. It is the story people want, and if the plot is sufficiently complicated and the details worked out with artistic ability the literary style is a minor consideration. Nevertheless, the style of the telling adds greatly to the interest. The "Adventures of Sherlock Holmes" were full of incident and their treatment was novel, but their literary finish added greatly to their popularity. It is a little curious that the better class of modern novelists, knowing the demand for this sort of literature, does not turn its attention more frequently to tales of crime and mystery. That Miss Mary E. Wilkins has done so proves that she at least is aware of the possibilities of the field. That she took the first prize offered by the New York syndicate for a detective story shows that she has a gift in that direction. Such tales are, however, so widely different from the sketches of uneventful New England life on which she has made her reputation that her admirers naturally wonder at the versatility which can accomplish both. This curiosity and interest are already manifesting themselves in advance orders for the editions of the Journal containing the tale. Whatever may be the popular verdict as to its merits, it will certainly be widely read.

BACILLI AND SUCH.

Several thousand years the ignorant human race lived in conscious security so far as food and air were concerned. Its struggle has been to get food. All this has changed. The scientist has come with his malign and ubiquitous bacilli, and now danger and death lurk in all things we eat and even in the air we breathe. What for years and years has been called "the pure air of heaven" literally swarms and is foul with microbes. Water in its best natural condition, unless sterilized, is full of the germs of disease. For years a class of disagreeable persons have insisted that the natural food of mankind is vegetarian, yet the scientists of the bacilli and microbe order tell us that only the fruits and vegetables which have grown and ripened in the air and sunshine are fit for food, and that all vegetables grown under the ground, potatoes, etc., are full of the impurities of the soil. As for meats, they are not only filled with microbes and such, but they dull the sensibilities and brutalize the heart. Going over the whole list, there are very few things that a human being can eat without running the risk of being killed by the bacilli or his kin, the microbe.

It is unnecessary to remark that the limited number of people who read of the germ theories must have a miserable time of it if they have sufficient leisure to think of them. But recently science itself, it is said, has come to the relief of those whom it distressed with the introduction of the all-pervasive bacilli. It, science, has found that there are two kinds of bacilli, the benign and the malignant, which, like the two principles of good and evil which pervade or are supposed to pervade the moral universe to contend with each other, are constantly at war. Health in the body means that the benign bacilli are in the ascendant, while disease is an indication that the malignant are uppermost. Moreover, it is stated that they are the kindly bacilli which give to articles like butter its pleasant flavor. If this be true, the excess of butter, for instance, which has not a pleasant flavor would indicate that the malignant and bad-tasting microbes were in a discouragingly large majority. Just as the bacilli theory has caused many people to have disagreeable feelings regarding food, a Professor Berthelot, a Paris chemist, is announced as being engaged in the production of chemical combinations which will serve as substitutes for the staple articles now in use. Cereals of all kinds, meat, eggs, butter and all the other articles of food are to be brought forth by the laboratory. These substitutes for food are to be presented in the forms of capsules or tablets, which will be taken very much as medicine is now taken, instead of the regular meal. Even now there is a patent food for dogs which is said to be superior, so far as the well-being of the canine is concerned, to that raw or cooked meat which he naturally selects. The pleasures of the table, it is true, will cease when the chemical nutrition in the form of the tablet shall have come. At the same time, the mass of people will be able to save the period between noon and half-past 1, used as the dinner hour, in cities like Indianapolis. The total suspension of business in a large part of the day involves a loss which the Journal will not undertake to calculate. Instead of going to dinner, the population in business and industry could take a small box of tablets in its vest-pocket and proceed with its work without loss of time or the discomfort in the way of dyspepsia and like ailments which are the penalty of good and abundant eating. The substitution of the chemical capsule and tablet would certainly enable those who are nervous regarding the bacilli to escape all danger except such as lurks in the air we breathe. Perhaps the chemist will find a substitute for the vital air. Most people, however, will not worry about the bacilli. Like the farmer whose son from college told him that the water he drank swarmed with harmful organisms, they will stolidly remark to these scientists with their microbes and bacilli, "If they kin stand it, I kin."

Too much praise cannot be accorded to General McKee and the officers in command of the troops in camp last week. It has been a school of instruction and discipline, and as such it has placed the National Guard of Indiana where they can be favorably compared with those of Massachusetts, New York and Pennsylvania. These officers have also taught the people in this vicinity that a master is not a junkie, but an assembly of volunteers for thorough military instruction. If Indiana had had such regiments and such artillery organizations as it now has when the late war broke out, it would have been worth millions of dollars to the country. In the North there were no such well-instructed volunteer officers and no such disciplined men as those that marched into the city yesterday. During the days of the war so few of the men were seen in the city that it would not have been suspected that a brigade of volunteers were in camp within a half-hour's ride of the town. On the whole, the encampment has been a most gratifying success.

St. Louis papers report a decided revival in Mississippi river traffic, both freight and passenger. In the old days, and not so very long ago either, when the Mississippi river and its tributaries were practically the only means of reaching large sections of the country, there was an immense amount of steamboat travel, and a very pleasant way of traveling it was. For rest, comfort and sociability it could not be surpassed. The general introduction of railroads and the much more rapid transit they afforded caused a great falling off in river traffic, but it is still considerable and, as stated, larger at present than for many years past. So far as heavy freights are concerned river traffic must always be able to compete successfully with railroads, and in the matter of travel it offers some inducements that the railroads cannot.

The crimes attributed to Holmes are already so numerous and so revolting that it seems the public would ask that no more evidence of the deeds of this cold-blooded and repulsive slaughterer of human beings shall be given. He should be tried, convicted and executed. The only advantage that can be hoped for by the revelations of his crimes is that he may make murder so hideous that no sane person will hereafter place himself in a list that contains the name of Holmes.

No person familiar with the effects of the morphine habit will be surprised to learn that the thrilling and dramatic story told by John R. Linnson about his long pursuit and final killing of the destroyer of his sister was purely imaginative. There is no limit to the inventive mendacity of a morphine victim. It should be added that the demoralizing influence of the drug in other directions is such as would easily account for so diabolical crime as that recently perpetrated in West Indianapolis.

In some of the Eastern States wheelmen are required to pay toll on turnpike roads the same as drivers of wagons and carriages. They say they do not object to it, for, while bicycles do not wear out a road, they, as the owners, are willing to contribute toward the keeping up of good thoroughfares.

Du Maurier's coming novel will, it is said, be called "The Martians." This looks a little like trespassing on Percival Lowell's preserves, he being the author of a story dealing with the invasion of our planet by the Martians, meaning thereby the inhabitants of Mars.

The success of the military encampment just closed and the good behavior and soldierly appearance of the troops insure a continuance of popular support and legislative support for the militia.

BUBBLES IN THE AIR.

His Business. "Just think," began the missionary lady. "Certainly, mum," assented Mr. Weary Watkins. "Just thinkin' is right in my line."

A Month After the Elopement. She-I got a letter from papa to-day, saying that he has made his will. He-Do we come in anywhere? She-Not directly; but he has left all his money to an asylum for idiots.

The Cause Discovered. "Why," asked the visiting Britisher, "why do you American women have such beastly, high-pitched voices, you know?" "Of this I know," said the apologetic native. "From a talk above the noise of the trolley cars as much as anything."

The Cheerful Idiot. "You will not find the woman of stable character scurrying about the streets on a bicycle," said the old-fashioned boarder. "Of course not," said the cheerful idiot. "The stable woman would prefer the horse."

LITERARY NOTES. Col. John Hay is the latest author to boast a literary day. Miss Helen Hay has written in literature a story and a humorous poem called "The Merry Mongoses."

Mrs. Humphrey Ward received \$5,000 for the English rights of "The Story of Bessie Costrell." The critic figures it out that all the money she has made in the last year for the story, or about \$60 cents a word.

Mr. Du Maurier is not going to lecture in America. His health does not permit of his accepting the proposals made to him. He said he had in receipt of \$200 a week as his share of the profits on the play of "Tribly."